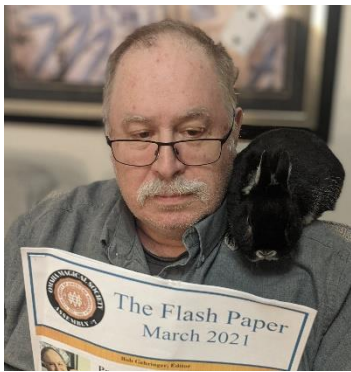




# The Flash Paper

## April 2021

Bob Gehringer, Editor



### Prez Sez

OMS Members and Life Members will note a little something extra in this month's newsletter. As one of several centennial surprises coming in the next few months, April's offering is the Big Money

Fooler based on the Big Money Prediction by Emerson Rodrigues. All the work has been done for you and the innocent seeming gaffed bills can live in your wallet until needed. The instructions for the trick and a sample routine can be found in the Omaha Magical Societies' Video Library. If you are a member and have forgotten the new password, contact our Executive Director Dave Arch. If you've been meaning to sign up, but just haven't gotten around to it yet, head to the Omaha Magical Society website and sign up today. I've used the trick a couple of times already and the participant's reaction is fun to watch as the magic unfolds in their hands right in front of them.

Looking forward to seeing you online at April's Zoom Club Meeting featuring **Lady Sarah** and **Keith Fields**. They were a lot of fun when they came for a lecture some years back and this should be an enjoyable evening. Until then.



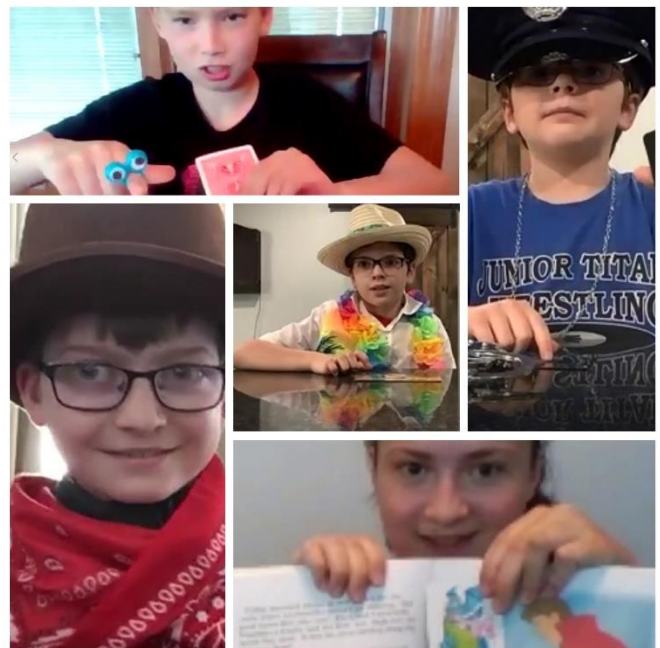
Check out our website:

<http://TheOmahaMagicalSociety.org>



Our Omaha Junior Magicians completed their Orange Wand level and to celebrate, we had a Magic Recital where each of the participants performed a an effect

taught in the Discover Magic curriculum. The young people went all out in their routining and many came up with costumes to match their themed presentations. We had a police officer, a psychic chef, an out-of-this-world travel agent, an animated little finger puppet, fairy tale figures, pirate treasure maps, a candy dream come true and much, much more. The group has been practicing for the last month on their patter, timing, and Zoom skills and it showed. A number of parents and grandparents Zoomed in along with the participants for a program that did not disappoint. - **Steve Nespor**





**Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

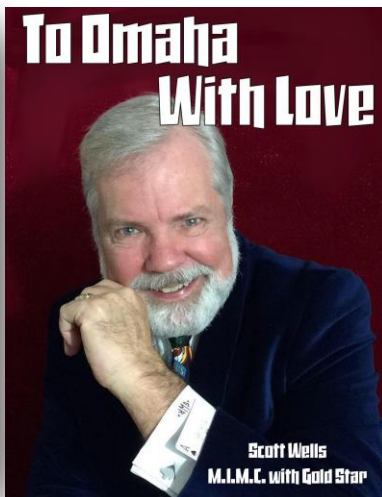


Join us this month as we host **Lady Sarah and Keith Fields** who will share part of their Magic Castle show, re-imagined for the Zoom platform - and a mini lecture. Bring a 260 balloon and some rope if you want to play along! Until then ... When ready to join, just click on this link <https://zoom.us/j/4028718108> (which is the same link we use for all of our monthly meetings).

### Our March Meeting



**Scott Hollingsworth**



**Scott Wells**

We are on a roll! Another evening of creative illusions and conversations was had by all who attended our March virtual get-together. It would be rare to experience both magical creativity and conversation (or for that matter even just a creative conversation) in most

of your average meetings, so our latest soiree was a sweet success because of our fellow magicians from the Houston club.



**Jamie Salinas**

The **Houston IBM Ring #39** presented a Cross Pollination Lecture and Performance for us on our OMS Zoom meeting in March. Three excellent magicians gave our Omaha club a delightful evening of magic. After each performance, they showed us the effect as well as providing our club with their notes regarding how they did each trick. In addition, they spent time answering questions about their presentations, their lives, and their interests. Our members so appreciated their talents and time. Everyone engaged in the evening provided yet another respite in this extended period of isolation. The lively discussion that ensued after their shows was fascinating.

Our **Huge Thank You** to **Scott Hollingsworth, Scott Wells, and Jamie Salinas.** An additional round of applause to our members who helped with coordinating the meeting. The evening was incredible!

Thanks to all of you who attended last month's OMS Cross Pollination Meeting featuring members from the Houston IBM Ring. Your continued support is appreciated more than you could know.

Websites: [scotthollingsworthmagic.com](http://scotthollingsworthmagic.com)  
[themagicwordpodcast.com](http://themagicwordpodcast.com)  
[magicbyjamie.com](http://magicbyjamie.com)





## What's your Magic Story? by Patrice Fisher

*The magicians I have interviewed for the Omaha Magical Society have fascinated me with their different styles and stories. However, there is one perspective that I have wanted to get, and that is the story of the wife of a magician. The first person who came to mind was Ann Rourke, the wife of magician Denny Rourke, and, as I found out, a magician herself. So, for this month's edition, I know you will enjoy Ann's own account of her life with not only a magician husband but also two children who became part of the show...*

### Ann Rourke

Many years ago, I was photographing a Cub Scout, Blue and Gold banquet, and the entertainment was a magician and his wife, **Pete and Babe Petrashek**. I loved their show and was intrigued by Babe as an assistant. I approached them after their show, explained that my husband was interested in magic and had learned a few tricks from books, but would like to know more. Pete suggested that Denny and I attend their next show a week later. They met with us after their performance and invited us to their home. Pete showed Denny how to do a "back palm" and told us about the Omaha Magic Society, suggesting that we attend their next meeting. That was the beginning.

Denny built a birthday party show and I made him a costume and helped with props. About a year later we entered a talent contest and I was his assistant. I made new costumes for both of us and appeared with him on stage. That first time on stage with him was so much fun... I was hooked. Babe had been my role model and she gave me lots of hints. We attended our first regional magic convention in Kansas City and it was so enlightening watching other magician's assistants...their

costumes, gestures and enthusiasm on stage. I attended a break-out session for assistants that was soooo helpful.

Over the years, Denny and I always approached magic as a team. We performed for corporate events from Las Vegas to Washington D.C. When our two children were old enough, we added them to our show and worked with a local agent to book fair shows in the summer and regional events during the year. We performed at our own Omaha Magic Banquet many times as well.

Magic has been a wonderful part of our family life for many, many years. Now that our children are grown and have their own families, we find ourselves laughing and reminiscing about performances in their youth. Those are the times that will always be a unique and special part of our lives.

Denny and I also had full-time jobs during those years. I was a professional fundraiser and I think our years in the variety arts arena helped me when planning events for my job. Understanding what makes an audience happy guided my efforts in appealing to donors.

I also performed as a professional clown for almost 20 years, doing birthday parties and family events. My experience on stage as a magician's assistant helped me develop a show for little ones. I made my own wardrobe and learned some simple magic routines for 5- & 6-year-olds. Most weekends "**Gumdrop**" could be found at a child's party and would return home totally rejuvenated by the experience.

Being a magician's wife and assistant is a total joy. We've made so many friends in the magic community and experienced audiences in a wild variety of places. Bringing people, a little magic and making them smile brings fulfillment to the performer and wonder and delight to those watching. Maybe in a small way we've been making the world a better place. What could be better?



Here is a series of photos featuring a stage illusion by Ann and Denny Rourke and their family.



NOW in our club's online video library . . .

When the birthday person's signed card is lost in the deck and then found by having the group sing Happy Birthday to the guest of honor, you will have not only created a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the group but also a memorable keepsake for the honoree.



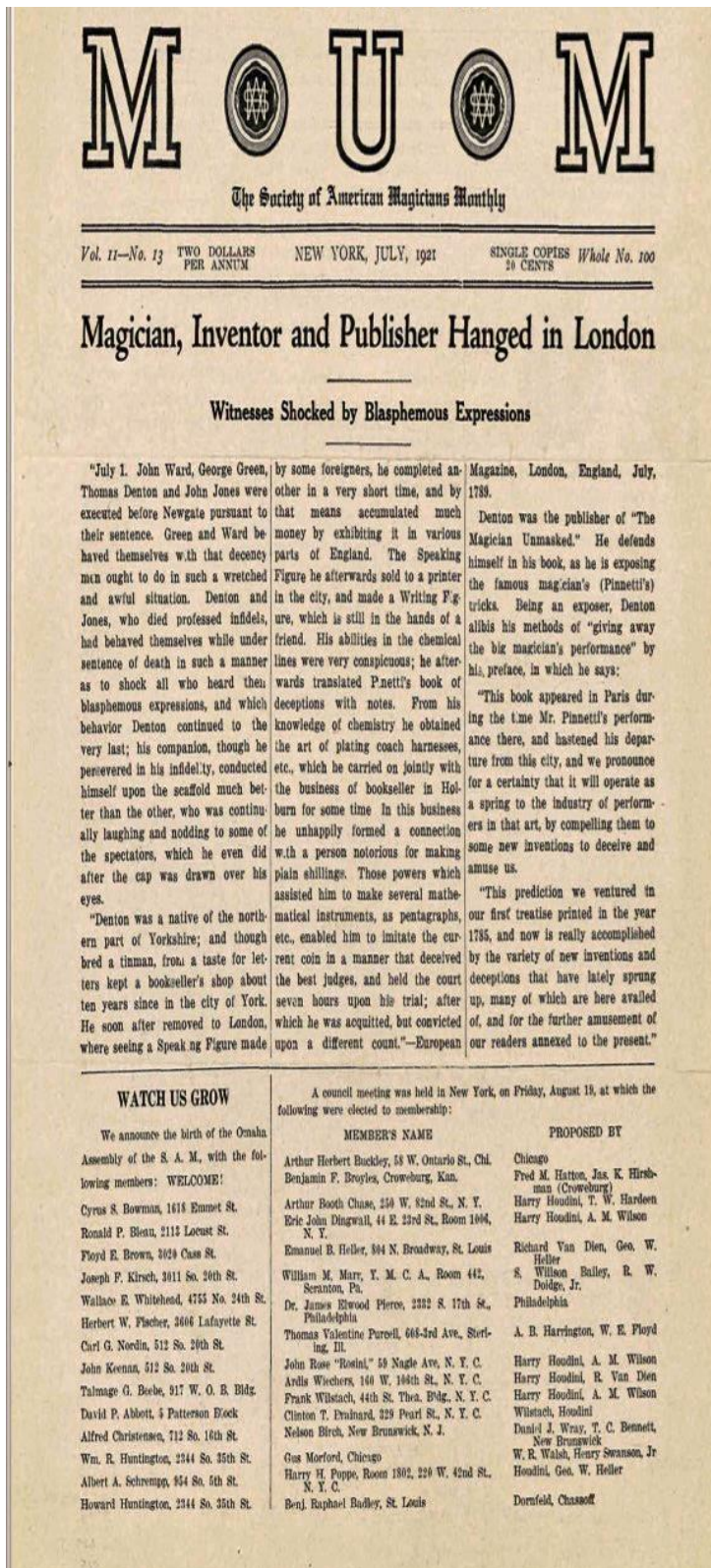


### Initial Announcement of the OMS July, 1921

### Centennial Year Magic Trick #1 Released

40 of you who are 2021 members or Life Members of The Omaha Magical Society received a hard copy of this month's Flash Paper with the gimmick inserted for the first magic trick to be released in a series of tricks in honor of the club's 100th year celebration.

Video instructions for the trick entitled **Big Money Prediction** are in our club's password protected online video library. Contact **Dave Arch** if you need a reminder of your log-in credentials.



- 2021 OMS Officers**
- President** – Steve Nespor ..... [omahamagician55@gmail.com](mailto:omahamagician55@gmail.com)
  - Vice President** – Jered Schaugaard... [jered.incredible@gmail.com](mailto:jered.incredible@gmail.com)
  - Secretary** – Patrice Fisher ..... [patricefisher@yahoo.com](mailto:patricefisher@yahoo.com)
  - Treasurer** – Bob Gehringer ..... [gehringerr@cox.net](mailto:gehringerr@cox.net)
  - Sgt-at-Arms** – Amjad Alawimari ..... [mrwho.magic@gmail.com](mailto:mrwho.magic@gmail.com)
  - Executive Director** - Dave Arch ..... [dave@sandler.com](mailto:dave@sandler.com)

Check the digital copy for a more defined picture.



Lady Sarah and Keith Fields

Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Come and see part of their Magic Castle show, re-imagined for the zoom platform along with a mini lecture. Featuring Keith's handling of the professor's nightmare, his favorite family show opener and something crazy with a balloon! Bring a 260 balloon and some rope if you want to play along!

When ready to join, just click on this link <https://zoom.us/j/4028718108> (which is the same link we use for all of our monthly meetings).

Here's hoping your schedule allows you to attend.

13405 Marinda ST.  
Omaha, NE 68144

